(c) what is the extent of increase in the rubber prices since January this year, indicating the prices prevailing in the months of January and June?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. R. DASMUNSHI) : (a) to (c) The release price of imported natural rubber till November, 1988 was Rs. 20,000$- p.m.t. ex-godown Madras. Subsequent to November, 1988 further releases were effected in April, 1989 at a release price of Rs. 23,573| per M.T. ex-godown Madras. The releases made by STC effective from 10th July, 1989 is at a release price of Rs. 27,400 p.m.t. ex-godown Madras.

The prevailing prices of indigenous rubber in January and June, 1989 respectively were Rs. 17,550 p.m.t. and Rs. 22,840 p.m.t.

The Rubber consuming industry, including shoe manufacturing industry, has represented against this release price.

Excise duty on polyester filament yarn

2006. SHRI CHIMAN BHAI MEHTA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) what are the details of the revenue realised from excise duty on PFY after lowering down the duty on the item from Rs. 85 to 55 per kg. two years ago;

(b) whether production went up or gone down as a result thereof; and

(c) whether excise duty on processed cloth was increased about two years back; if so, what was the increase and whether due to the increase the excise revenue has gone up?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI AJIT PANJA): (a) and (b) The quantity of PFY produced during the years 1987-88 and 1988-89 and the central excise duty realised therefrom are as follows:

	1987-88	1988-89
Production (in metric tonnes)	1,30,614	1,61,298
Revenue (Rs. in crores)	870.29	804.85

(c) The excise duty on processed man-made fabrics was rationalised in November, 1987. This rationalisation and subsequent modifications thereto have *inter alia* contributed to increased revenue from this item in 1988-89 as compared to 1987-88.

Irregularities in the Calcutta Branch of State Bank of Indore

2007. SHRI YASHWANT SINHA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether several irregularities have been detected in the transactions of State Bank of Indore, Calcutta Branch;

(b) whether facilities have been granted to the firms/companies through letters of credit; and

(c) if so, what are the details of the recovery of amount advanced against such letters of credit during 1988 and till June 30, 1989?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) to (c) The State Bank of Indore has reported that irregularities were detected during March, 1989 in cetain cases in two of its branches at Calcutta where letters of credit|guarantees were established.